IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraphs [0004] and [0024] as follows:

[0004] It is determined if ~~Determination is made whether~~ the destination data is in a machine language. If ~~When~~ the destination data is not in a machine language, the destination data is translated into machine language destination data. The unique label identifier and the machine language destination data are obtained from the item using a machine capable of reading the machine language during the shipment of the item. The tracking data is recorded in the computer database based on the machine language unique label identifier and the machine language data. The tracking data regarding shipment progress of the item is provided in response to a request referencing at least one of the user identifier and the destination data.

[0024] For example, Sender 10 may view data regarding the envelope 40 which was sent to Sender 20. Fig. 5a shows a screen shot of an exemplary mail outbox of Sender 10. For each envelope 40, there may be the following information: date of the last scan; date of arrival; a class of mail (e.g., "First Class", "Express Mail", etc.); status information (e.g., "On its way", "Arrived", etc.); recipient identifier ~~Recipient's identification~~ 42 or Recipient's Nickname (e.g., "117-1234-07 Farmindale, NY", "Mom & Dad"); the optional data 73 (e.g., "Happy Farther's Day!", "Family Newsletter", etc.), etc. The system 1 may also allow Sender 10 to not reveal its name (i.e., the system 1 would display Sender's 10 identification as "anonymous").

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